PE X231409-B (003 . . . 098204)

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

man blicant:

Rose et al.

Serial No.:

09/833,047

Filed:

April 11, 2001

Art Unit:

1619

For:

LONG-ACTING, CHEMICAL-RESISTANT SKIN EMOLLIENTS

MOISTURIZERS AND STRENGTHENERS

Examiner:

A. Berman

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed: Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231, on November 13, 2001

Lindsay S. Adams

November 13, 2001

Date of Signature
The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment to Account No. 50-1145.

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

SIR:

In the Communication dated October 10, 2001, a requirement for restriction was imposed for one of the following groups of claims:

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- I. Claims 1-4, drawn to a compound, classified in class 558, subclass 250;
- II. Claims 5-11, drawn to a skin care composition, classified in class 424, subclass 401; and III. Claims 12 and 13, drawn to a method of using a compound, classified in class 558, subclass 250.

In addition, Applicants have been advised that a specie as found in either Claims 3 or 4 for Group I, or Claims 7 or 8 for Group II, must also be elected for continued prosecution.

In response, Applicants hereby elect with traversal the claims of Group I (i.e., Claims 1-4) and elect the specie encompassed by Claim 3. Applicants traverse the restriction requirement with regard to the claims of Group III (i.e., Claims 12 and 13). The Examiner contends that the inventions have acquired separate status in the art as shown by their different classification, which in addition to being distinct, makes the restriction proper. See Communication at paragraph 5.

Likewise, the Examiner contends that the search for Group III is not required for Group I. See Communication at paragraph 6.

However, Applicants point out that both Groups I and III are classified in class 558, subclass 220. Thus, Applicants do not see the basis for stating that Group I and III have acquired

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separate status in the art and do not require the same search. The search for Groups I and III would be the same especially in view that the claims of Group III for examination purposes would be directed to applying the elected specie shown in claim 3 to mammalian skin. The restriction of Group III should be withdrawn and Claims 1-4 and 12-13 should be examined together.

If the Examiner has any questions, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned attorney at the telephone number below.

Respectfully submitted,

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